1. - 9. (cancelled)

10.-15. (withdrawn)

16. (previously presented) A method for distributed remote network monitoring (dRMON) in a LAN comprising:

deploying, within each of a plurality of ESs to be monitored, executable code comprising an dRMON agent associated with the ES configured to communicate with a dRMON proxy connected to the LAN, each dRMON agent implementing RMON functional groups but only capturing and analyzing packets transmitted and/or received by the ES;

forwarding, periodically by the dRMON agents, agent data including statistics and/or captured packets to said dRMON proxy; and

combining the forwarded agent data at the dRMON proxy.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16 wherein said dRMON proxy includes a set of SNMP interfaces so that existing network application management software can interact with said dRMON proxy as though said dRMON proxy were a non-distributed RMON probe.

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16 wherein in a default mode, ESs in the same multicast domain are treated by a dRMON proxy as though they are on one LAN segment to RMON applications that interact with the dRMON proxy though it were a RMON probe such that ports and hosts are combinable to create Virtual LAN (VLAN) definitions to cause the monitoring function to operate as though all selected hosts were on the same LAN segment being served by the same RMON probe with the

dRMON proxy creating and maintaining several such views with each appearing as one interface to RMON management applications.

19. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16 whereby said dRMON agents perform continual response time monitoring and forward monitoring results to the dRMON Proxy.

20. (cancelled)

21.-24. (withdrawn)